

*Listing Of The Claims*

The following list, if entered, replaces all prior versions of the claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:  
identifying a first set of physical storage devices to reserve as backup for a second  
set of physical storage devices configured to provide a logical volume,  
wherein  
the second set of physical storage devices is configured using an intent associated  
with the logical volume, wherein the intent is stored on the second set of  
physical storage devices, and wherein the intent comprises information  
identifying a set of characteristics specified by a creator of the logical  
volume, and  
each physical storage device of the first set of physical storage devices and the  
second set of physical storage devices conforms to the intent.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
reserving the first set of physical storage devices.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein  
the reserving the first set of physical storage devices occurs at a time that the  
second set of physical storage devices is configured to provide the logical  
volume.
4. (Original) The method of claim 2 further comprising:  
selecting a backup physical storage device of the first set of physical storage  
devices to replace a failed physical storage device of the second set of  
physical storage devices.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein

the backup physical storage device conforms to the intent such that the selecting the backup physical storage device is performed without searching for the backup physical storage device.

6. (Original) The method of claim 2 further comprising:  
using a backup physical storage device of the first set of physical storage devices to increase a size of the logical volume.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein  
the intent comprises a rule used to configure the second set of physical storage devices for the logical volume.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein  
the rule is stored with the logical volume when the logical volume is configured.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein  
the rule corresponds to a command used to configure the logical volume.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein  
the rule is used to identify the available physical storage devices to configure the logical volume.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein  
the rule is used to identify available physical storage devices from which the first set of physical storage devices is identified.
12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein  
the intent is stored with the logical volume when the logical volume is configured.
13. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein  
the logical volume is created when the logical volume is configured.
14. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

providing availability of the logical volume by ensuring that the first set of physical storage devices is available and conforms to the intent of the logical volume.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein the availability of the logical volume meets an availability requirement.

16. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:  
identifying means for identifying a first set of physical storage devices to reserve as backup for a second set of physical storage devices configured to provide a logical volume, wherein the second set of physical storage devices is configured using an intent associated with the logical volume, wherein the intent is stored on the second set of physical storage devices, and wherein the intent comprises information identifying a set of characteristics specified by a creator of the logical volume, and  
each physical storage device of the first set of physical storage devices and the second set of physical storage devices conforms to the intent.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16 further comprising:  
reserving means for reserving the first set of physical storage devices.

18. (Original) The system of claim 17 wherein the reserving the first set of physical storage devices occurs at a time that the second set of physical storage devices is configured to provide the logical volume.

19. (Original) The system of claim 17 further comprising:  
selecting means for selecting a backup physical storage device of the first set of physical storage devices to replace a failed physical storage device of the second set of physical storage devices.

20. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium comprising:

identifying instructions configured to identify a first set of physical storage devices to reserve as backup for a second set of physical storage devices configured to provide a logical volume, wherein the second set of physical storage devices is configured using an intent associated with the logical volume, wherein the intent is stored on the second set of physical storage devices, and wherein the intent comprises information identifying a set of characteristics specified by a creator of the logical volume, and each physical storage device of the first set of physical storage devices and the second set of physical storage devices conforms to the intent.

21. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 20 further comprising: reserving instructions configured to reserve the first set of physical storage devices.

22. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 21 wherein the reserving the first set of physical storage devices occurs at a time that the second set of physical storage devices is configured to provide the logical volume.

23. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 21 further comprising: selecting instructions configured to select a backup physical storage device of the first set of physical storage devices to replace a failed physical storage device of the second set of physical storage devices.

24. (Currently Amended) A system comprising: an identifying module configured to identify a first set of physical storage devices to reserve as backup for a second set of physical storage devices configured to provide a logical volume, wherein the second set of physical storage devices is configured using an intent associated with the logical volume, wherein the intent is stored on the second set of physical storage devices, and wherein the intent comprises information

identifying a set of characteristics specified by a creator of the logical volume, and

each physical storage device of the first set of physical storage devices and the second set of physical storage devices conforms to the intent.

25. (Original) The system of claim 24 further comprising:  
a reserving module configured to reserve the first set of physical storage devices.

26. (Original) The system of claim 25 wherein  
the reserving module reserves the first set of physical storage devices at a time  
that the second set of physical storage devices is configured to provide the  
logical volume.

27. (Original) The system of claim 25 further comprising:  
a selecting module configured to select a backup physical storage device of the  
first set of physical storage devices to replace a failed physical storage  
device of the second set of physical storage devices.